UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/512,560	02/24/2000	Yudong Sun	ST9-99-153	6032

23373   7590   04/21/2004

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2178	10

DATE MAILED: 04/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	**Applicant(s)**
Office Action Summary	09/512,560	SUN, YUDONG
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Adam L Basehoar	2178	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _13 November 2003_ .

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
    closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-30_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-30_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
    application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _8_ .	6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to communications: The Amendment forwarded to the

Examiner on 02/09/04 of the original application filed on 02/24/00 and the IDS filed on

01/23/04.

2.   Claims 1-30 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over W3C's

"Introduction to CSS2", http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-CSS2/intro.html#processing-model,

05/12/98 in view of Hill et al (US 6,023,714: 02/08/00).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

4.   Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over W3C's

"Introduction to CSS2", http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-CSS2/intro.html#processing-model,

05/12/98 in view of Hill et al (US 6,023,714: 02/08/00).

-In regard to independent claims 1, 11, and 21, W3C teaches a user agent computer

processing method, system, and article of manufacture, wherein the method "parses the source

document (HTML) and create a document tree", wherein the step of creating could generate a

corresponding "DOM"; "retrieving all style sheets associated with the document that are

specified for the target media type"; "Annotate every element of the document tree by assigning

a single value to every property that is applicable to the target media type"; "From the annotated

document tree, generating a *formatting structure*"; and " Transfer the formatting structure to the

target medium (e.g., print the results, display them on the screen, render them as speech, etc.)"

(Section: 2.3 The CSS2 processing model: Steps 1-6). W3C does not teach that customizing a

requested document is done on the document server side. Hill et al teaches that customizing the

requested document can be done on the server side as well as the client side (column 2, lines 30-

34). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, to have customized a

requested HTML document for target device on the server side, because it was well known in the

art that some end-user client devices do not support casscading style-sheet processing. W3C also

does not teach flattening the DOM to generate the transformed document. As stated by the

applicant, "flattening" a DOM strictly means converting it back into standard HTML format and

that "flattening" was well known in the art and thus would have been obvious (page 16, lines 15-

19). W3C futher doesn't teach that the steps of parsing, obtaining a style sheet, applying the

style sheet, and flattening the DOM are done with modules. The applicant teaches that

"modules" can be software, hardware, or firmware (page 10, lines 10-12). Hill et al teach that

"generally, program modules include routines, programs, components, data structures, etc." It

would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, to impliment the above steps on a

computer system using modules (i.e software, hardware, programs, data structures, etc), because

it was well known in the art that any processing of data on a computer system needs at least a

subset of these to perform.

-In regard to dependent claims 2, 12, and 22, W3C further teaches wherein the style sheet is a cascading style sheet (CSS) (Section: 2.3 The CSS2 processing model).

-In regard to dependent claims 3,13, and 23, W3C further teaches "identifying the target media type" and "Annotate every element of the document tree by assigning a single value to every property that is applicable to the target media type"(Section: 2.3 The CSS2 processing model; Steps 2-4).

-In regard to dependent claims 4, 14, and 24, Hill et al further teach the "server reciving a document request from the client" (Fig 5: 502). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art for a server to receive a request for a document from a client, because it was well known in the art that for a client to receive a document (data) from a server system, it must request it and the server must process that request.

-In regard to dependent claims 5, 15, and 25, Hill et al further teach wherein the client contains a Web browser (Fig. 2: 204 & 206). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art for the client to have had a Web browsr because it was well known in the art to use a Web browser to access documents on a server which is the embodiment of the invention.

-In regard to dependent claims 6, 16, and 26, W3C further teaches wherein the style sheet can contain "@media rule specifies the target media types (separated by commas) of a set of

rules (delimited by curly braces). The @media construct allows style sheet rules for various

media in the same style sheet." (Section: 7.2.1 The @media rule)

-In regard to dependent claims 7-8, 17-18, and 27-28, W3C further teaches wherein the

style sheet is stored "either within the HTML document" (separate portion of document), "or via

an external style sheet" (separate data file) (Section: 2.1 A brief CSS2 tutorial for HTML).

-In regard to dependent claims 9, 19, and 29, W3C further teaches "transfering the

formatting structure to the target medium (e.g., print the results, display them on the screen,

render them as speech, etc.)" (Section: 2.3 The CSS2 processing model).

-In regard to dependent claims 10, 20, and 30, W3C further teaches genereating nothing

(removing) at least one object of the DOM in a response to a style sheet removal of an HTML

element, wherein"if an element in the document tree has a value of 'none' for the 'display'

property, that element will generate nothing in the formatting structure," (Section: 2.3 The CSS2

processing model; Step 5)

Response to Arguments

5.   Applicant's arguments filed 11/13/03 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

-In regard to the Applicant's main argument that the combination of "Intro to CSS2" and

Hill et al do not teach server side processing of the style sheet (applied to independent claim 1

and amended independent claims 11 and 21), the Examiner agrees with the applicant that within

the cited Hill et al reference (column 2, lines 30-34) server-side processing is not explicetly

shown. However the Examiner notes that server-side processing of the style-sheet for the target

device would clearly have been an obvious alternative embodiement (column 13, lines 16-18) to

Hill et al especially in light of the Examiner's provided motivation to combine "Intro to CSS2

and Hill et al." as discussed in the following paragraph.

-In regard to the Applicant's argument that the Examiner's motivation "it was well

known in the art at that some end-user client devices do not support cascading style-sheet

processing" is unfounded, the Examiner reiterates that this fact was notoriously well known in

the art at the time of the invention. The Examiner brings in http://builder.com.com/5100-31-

5074849.html "Getting started with Cascading Style Sheets" as evidence to show that it was well

known in the art that versions of web browsers, also well known before the date of the

Application, where unable to support the CSS2 let alone the first CSS Specification. It has now

been clearly shown that a style sheet would thus have to be applied at the server supporting said

specifications to then be sent and rendered on the user's browser.

-In regard to the Applicant's final argument that the combination of "Intro to CSS2" and

Hill et al fail to teach any rule of a style sheet to a document in a document server, or in a system

for customizing a requested document for sending to a target device, or in a program storage

medium embodying instructions to perform a method for customizing a requested document for

sending to a target device. The Examiner respectfully disagrees and feels all the claims

limitations have been met for the three substantially similar independent claims. As for the new

limitation added to independent claims 11 and 21, "for sending to a target device," the examiner

notes that the limitation implies the processing be done on the server side as described in claim 1

which is discussed in the above paragraphs.

Conclusion

6.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing

date of this final action.

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Adam L Basehoar whose telephone number is (703) 305-7212.

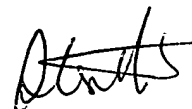The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 7:30am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on (703) 308-5186. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ALB

STEPHEN S. HONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER